

Recommendations and Problems  
Monthly Reports for May 1958

CARTOGRAPHY DIVISION


Due to the increasing demands placed upon the Division for revision of existing maps, especially NIS and OCI base maps, it has become necessary to establish a maintenance program for revising bases on a continuing basis. Allocation of time and personnel will be provided as a routine procedure in each Branch. These demands result from the fact that we have accumulated a large number of base maps which are constantly in demand and which must be kept substantively current.

During the month agreement was reached with D/GL to institute a new procedure for the distribution and control of maps produced by the Division. It is believed this agreement will result in more efficient handling of control and distribution problems in both Divisions.

FAR EAST COMPILATION BRANCH

There are no new problems of an administrative nature to report at this time. It is regretted, however, that the members of this Branch have not had the time to spend on area familiarization that they should have for quite some time, and it is beginning to be felt. This is a result of the continuing pressure of workload and no Solomon has yet arisen to provide the solution.

GEOGRAPHY DIVISION

25X1A9a  The Far East Branch is concerned about the breakdown of FDD's support, illustrated as follows: Several recent visits to FDD for the purpose of expediting and coordinating our Chinese language translation requirements brings up to the reluctant conclusion that FDD's support of our current research program on Communist China is steadily deteriorating. At a time when Chinese Communist geographic publications are increasing in both volume and quality, FDD's capability has declined in quality, quantity and rate. The only currently available source of translation service appears to be the Joint Publications Research Service, which usually requires 7 or 8 months for the translation of a 150-page geographic monography. No FDD personnel are assigned to geographic subject exploitation. In view of the need for prompt exploitation of current Chinese geographic publications, it is recommended that this problem be considered in the Foreign Language Exploitation Committee, including the possibility of re-establishing the "geographic" requirement in FDD's Tab A priority list.

In consideration of the increasing difficulties in obtaining prompt exploitation of Chinese publications, the following possibilities are raised by GG/F:

- a. A reconsideration of Long-term Chinese Language training should be made.
- b. As an interim measure, it is suggested that FDD consider subsidizing the translation of monographs by the Press Monitoring Service, Hong Kong.

GEOGRAPHY DIVISION (Cont'd)

Very few of the requirements prepared by the Europe Branch have received effective servicing from the field. In some instances, the difficulty seems to be too much "processing" and "coordinating" in St/I. Inquiry into this problem on a division-wide basis will be made and reported again next month.

EDITING AND REVIEW STAFF

In post-publication review Ch/G took exception to the format of GR-181, Civil Divisions of the World: Part I. Asia and the USSR, because it deviated from the standard CIA form. The problem will be discussed in conference with Ch/G, but one aspect of it deserves special attention -- the use of controls on nonclassified reports and the changes this necessitates in the cover of the reports, such as omission of the name of the issuing division, the seal, and the warning (on the back of the front cover). Currently we have no single directive that covers the situation; what written information we have is so old that it may be obsolete. At various times we have been informed that a directive was being prepared. At various times we have been informed that a directive was being prepared, but none has been forthcoming. Clarification of this situation is needed at this time since GR-181 (which brought the problem to the fore) is one of a series of 5 reports which should have the same format.

The problem of standardization of UW reports is no longer paramount since by far the larger number of reports in this series have already been completed. For the reports remaining, any problems can be worked out with the Chiefs of the Branches involved, and most questions of terminology can be settled through the use of the recently acquired glossaries.

NEAR EAST - AFRICA BRANCH

The outline maps that now must accompany UW studies are of little value unless the user plots the scanty information on another map. If the production of these studies is to continue, it is suggested that a quick, cheap method of providing a country map with all copies of the report be looked into.

MAP LIBRARY DIVISION

NONE REPORTED

PHOTO INTELLIGENCE DIVISION

NONE REPORTED